

NATIVE AMERICAN NETWORK

Winter 2006

District of Nevada

Ruby Mountain Scenic Area

Photo by John Walker



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FROM THE DESK OF
DANIEL G. BOGDEN, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

A TRIBUTE TO VICKIE DILLON

We were saddened by the news of Vickie Dillon's retirement. Vickie retired on January 31, 2006, capping a truly outstanding career of federal service and assistance to victims. As a tribute to Vickie and her dedicated service and career, let me briefly recap her work history. She came to Las Vegas as a child and resided here for 48 years. Vickie worked in the legal field for over 30 years, and spent the last 15 years as Victim-Witness Specialist/Coordinator for the U.S. Attorney's Office. From 1975 to 1980, Vickie worked in the United States Attorney's Office as a secretary in the Civil Division. In 1980, she left the office to work with an attorney in private practice and returned to the United States Attorney's office in 1990. Along with former Victim-Witness Specialist, Robin Skone-Palmer, Vickie was interested in expanding Indian Country outreach, and has visited most of the reservations and colonies in the State of Nevada. She and Robin created the "Native American Network" newsletter. That newsletter has continued to thrive, and the mailing list is constantly expanding. In 1993, the U.S. Attorney's Office held its first Native American conference in Winnemucca, Nevada. Most appropriately, its theme was "Bringing Nevada Together". The conference was a major success and the annual tradition has continued. With additional federal funding, the conference has been enhanced by combining nationally-known presenters with local professionals. Vickie says that in addition to her varied duties as Victim-Witness Coordinator, working with the Native American and rural communities has been the most fulfilling. Vickie looks forward to devoting more time to reading, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. Her knowledge, dedication and desire to help victims certainly made a difference to all those around her. Indeed, Vickie will truly be missed by all.



NEVADA IS AGAIN THE FASTEST GROWING STATE

According to the latest report from the U.S. Census Bureau (December 22, 2005), Nevada's population increased by 3.5 percent between July 1, 2004, and July 1, 2005, marking the 19th consecutive year that Nevada has been the fastest-growing state. Arizona was a close second with a growth rate just under 3.5 percent. See <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php> for more information and to obtain a copy of the U.S. Census report. The South and West again monopolized the list of the fastest-growing states; Idaho, Florida, Utah, Georgia, Texas, North Carolina, Delaware and Oregon rounded out the top 10. The nation's population rose by 0.9 percent (2.8 million people) over the period, to 296.4 million. The population estimates are for the July 1, 2005 date, and thus do not include the impact of Hurricane Katrina, which occurred afterwards.

In response to this report, the *Las Vegas Review Journal* reported that the effect of growth in Nevada and other Western states is expected to be national too. Demographers and political analysts are expecting Southern and Western states to gain more seats in the House of Representatives when Congress is reapportioned in 2010. Texas and Florida could gain as many as three house seats each, and Ohio and New York could lose as many as two seats apiece. Every 10 years, the 435 seats in the House of Representatives are divided among the states based on population counts. The numbers are used to divvy up votes in the Electoral College, used in presidential elections. Clark Bensen of Polidata, a Virginia firm that crunches political data, said population shifts over the past 65 years have changed the regional makeup of Congress. In 1940, Northeastern and Midwestern states had 251 seats in the House, compared with 184 for states in the South and West. Today, Southern and Western states have the edge, 252-183. "Basically, it took two generations to have a complete shifting of the power base," Bensen said. Kim Brace of Election Data Services, another firm that crunches political numbers, said population shifts can affect the regional issues that preoccupy Washington. "The old industrial-era towns and their particular issues are no longer holding as much sway in Congress," Brace said. "There are less people speaking their message." Water

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access and land management, big issues in the West and Southwest, could get more attention in the future, Brace said.

ATTORNEY GENERAL GONZALES REMARKS ON METHAMPHETAMINE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION (January 23, 2006 Address)

The scourge of methamphetamine is tightening its grip on communities across America. As we have heard, meth is a unique and deadly threat to our Nation. It is highly addictive. It is easy and cheap to produce. And as many in this room know, it destroys lives far beyond those of just the addicts and the users. With every tragedy and every act of violence... with every child abandoned because of meth use and every life lost to meth abuse... the vise grip is turned another notch. And that means community and national leaders are being squeezed for answers - for some response to this rapidly growing problem.

What can we do at the Justice Department to stop the spread of meth? We are working to save lives with a simple and proven formula: Communicate, cooperate, and coordinate our efforts at the federal level with our State and local law enforcement partners. We're tackling every aspect of this challenging problem...and we're doing it together.

First, I have directed the United States Attorney's Offices to make the prosecution of meth cooks and distributors - especially those who are repeat offenders - a high priority. This means U.S. Attorneys will be going into federal court, seeking stiff sentences for major players in the meth trade. During the last ten years, our U.S. Attorneys have more than quadrupled the number of meth cases filed and defendants charged. And we are continuing to apply the pressure on these criminals. In addition, I have directed our federal law enforcement agencies to target major organizations and large-scale providers of the drug, and the ingredients used to produce it. Finally, I want you to know that the Drug Enforcement Administration commits more than \$145 million per year to combat meth. Earlier this year, Administrator Karen Tandy declared meth a top priority for the DEA's Mobile Enforcement Teams. These teams are now allocating expertise and resources to areas hit hard by the practical challenges and high costs of prosecuting meth producers and distributors. In addition, the DEA also has Clandestine Lab

Enforcement Teams, which help state and local law enforcement detect and clean up meth labs. In the past two years, they've helped to administer more than 18,000 of these cleanups.

The federal government also acts as a conduit for best practices and training as well as a source for the latest intelligence about criminal trends around the country. For instance, we provide specialized training to police officers and sheriff's deputies on how best to respond to meth. In the 2004 and 2005 fiscal years, we more than tripled the number of meth-training courses offered nationwide. For more than seven years, DEA has provided clandestine-lab awareness and certification training to thousands of State and local officers. And in the past year, DEA expanded this clandestine-lab training to include Mexican police officers and prosecutors. As you will hear today, much of the actual meth production has moved across the border into Mexico - with the finished product coming back into our country. We're doing everything we can to work with the Department of Homeland Security and our counterparts in the Government of Mexico to address this shared challenge. Because of these efforts, we have had some successes over the last three years, law enforcement has seized, on average, 45 small toxic meth labs or dumpsites each day across America.

But even as we work to cut off meth at the source, the problem grows. A recent survey by the National Association of Counties revealed that 58 percent of counties ranked methamphetamine as their No. 1 drug problem-three times as high as the next threat: cocaine. According to our most recent national data, 583,000 people are "current" users of meth-having used the drug sometime within the 30 days before being surveyed. Over the previous year, 1.4 million people had used meth. To put these numbers in context: That's nearly four times the number of heroin users in the United States. That means we have to work harder. We have to do more.



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IMPORTANT MEETING UPDATES AND NEWS FROM TRIBAL LIAISON/PROSECUTOR AUSA SUE FAHAMI

JUDICIAL TRIBAL CONSORTIUM

The Judicial Tribal Consortium met at the Fallon Fairgrounds for their December 2, 2005 meeting. The Consortium is sponsored by the Supreme Court of Nevada Administrative Office of the Courts. The Consortium was formed to create better working relationships among the tribal, local, state and federal governments. The meeting began with introductions from all participants. Kareen Prentice, the new domestic violence ombudsman for the State of Nevada Attorney General's Office was introduced. Doreen Whitworth, the Grants and Projects Analyst from the State of Nevada Attorney General's Office was also introduced. Ms. Whitworth advised that she is available to assist with grant writing. She also advised that the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women grant applications are due in mid-January through February, with sub-grant solicitations due at the end of April.



James Williams III from the United States Department of Justice Community Relations Department stated that he is the representative in charge of covering the Western United States on behalf of his department. He acts as a mediator, providing conflict resolution and prevention assistance on a wide variety of issues. These issues include disputes involving Native American tribes, local communities and Federal or State officials on or near reservations. He has previously worked on the resolution of burial ground rights and road conflicts that arise regarding roads that go through Indian Country. He explained that there is no charge for his services. Those in attendance were encouraged to contact him should a dispute arise. Mr. Williams is not able to mediate intra-tribal matters.

Joanne Flanagan, Substance Abuse Counselor with the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony gave a brief history and update on the Native American Victim Impact Panel. This Victim Impact Panel is geared toward Native American spirituality and healing. Any enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe who has been convicted of drunken driving is eligible to attend, as are victims and their families. The first meeting was held in July 2005. For more information, you can call Joanne at (775) 329-5162.

Wendy Russell, Drug Court Coordinator for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, explained how their tribal drug court operates. Juveniles already in their juvenile system are given the opportunity to enter this year-long program. There is a

point system and families must get involved by providing reports throughout the program. Graduation depends on the progress of each individual. Their drug court also has funds available for prevention training. A Wellness Retreat is planned for June, 2006. Interested parties should contact Ms. Russell at (775) 265-0202. Other participants shared some of their comments and concerns throughout the meeting. The next Judicial Tribal Consortium meeting will take place in Elko, Nevada on April 21, 2006.

NEVADA TRIBAL POLICE CHIEFS

The meeting for Nevada Tribal Police Chiefs took place at the Reno/Sparks Indian Colony on January 18, 2006. The meeting was led by the newly appointed Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Special Agent in Charge for District III, Selanhongva McDonald. SAC McDonald stated that he is aware of the numerous challenges that face Indian Country Law Enforcement Officers and Special Agents today. He assured everyone that he is committed to making sure that officers have all the tools necessary to complete their jobs and to process criminal cases. He stated that it is necessary for the leaders to work hard on keeping communications open, on continuing partnerships, community policing and networking. SAC McDonald stated that the goal of law enforcement is to reduce crime and to protect and serve our communities where we work and live. He concluded by thanking everyone for their hard work and continued support. SAC McDonald is well respected and no stranger to our law enforcement efforts throughout the State of Nevada. He brings knowledge, experience, leadership and dedication to his position and is a welcome addition and trusted partner in our law enforcement efforts.



A NOTE FROM VICKIE DILLON

As I prepare to retire from the U.S. Attorney's Office, I look back at some of the varied and interesting aspects of my position. One of the most rewarding and enjoyable aspects has been the opportunity to travel throughout the state to visit Indian reservations and colonies and other rural areas.

I leave knowing there are dedicated professional in Nevada who are working to improve the lives of children, elders, and others at risk. I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone the best.

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT REAUTHORIZATION SIGNED INTO LAW

News Release from The National Center for Victims of Crime

The National Center for Victims of Crime hailed today's reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, a critically important measure that will continue and strengthen programs that protect women nationwide.

VAWA 2005, as it is called, passed Congress with broad bipartisan support as part of legislation reauthorizing the Department of Justice (HR 3402) and was signed today by President Bush at the White House.

"VAWA reauthorization is vital for our nation's response to victims," said Mary Lou Leary, executive director of the National Center. "By enacting such a comprehensive, bipartisan bill, Congress has reaffirmed that victims of crime are a national priority."

The legislation was shepherded through Congress by Senators Joseph Biden (D-DE), Arlen Specter (R-PA), and Orrin Hatch (R-UT), and Congressmen Jim

Sensenbrenner (R-WI) and John Conyers (D-MI). "These Congressional champions provided extraordinary leadership to ensure that crime victims receive the support they need to rebuild their lives," said Leary.

First enacted in 1994, VAWA revolutionized the nation's response to crimes that predominantly affect women, including domestic violence and sexual assault. Under VAWA, crucial services-including emergency shelters, sexual assault nurse examiner programs, child advocacy centers, and hotlines-have become a lifeline for tens of thousands of victims across the country.

The National Center for Victims of Crime played a key role in shaping the Sexual Assault Services Act (SASA), an important addition to VAWA that provides a dedicated funding stream for rape crisis centers and service agencies. "SASA gives long-overdue aid to rape crisis centers," said Leary, "because constant funding shortages have meant long waiting lists for victim

counseling, closed satellite offices, and significantly reduced services. Victims who have endured the trauma of sexual assault deserve to get the help they need immediately-not in three weeks, six months, or even longer. This legislation helps these centers provide crucial services when and where they are needed."

VAWA 2005 also strengthens the federal interstate stalking law. At the National Center's urging, the legislation makes it a federal crime to stalk someone using high-tech devices, such as global positioning systems.

Other improvements include new programs to expand services to teen and young adult victims, prevent violence, and strengthen the healthcare system's response to violence against women. The legislation will also improve the response to victims with disabilities, seniors, racial or ethnic minorities, those who live in rural communities, and other underserved groups.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Tribal Victim Assistance Discretionary Grant Program

- Closes March 15, 2006 for additional information, visit <http://wind.uwyo.edu/resourceguide/funding/funding.asp>

Improving the Well-Being of Children - Native American Healthy Marriage Initiative

- Closes April 4, 2006 for additional information, visit www.grants.gov

GRANT WEBSITES

<http://12.46.245.173/cfda/cfda.html>
<http://www.grants.gov>
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov>

INDIAN COUNTRY CASE UPDATE

RODNEY LEWIS HARNEY, Duck Valley Indian Reservation, was charged by information with Assault. Harney was charged with assaulting a juvenile, who had not attained the age of 16 years at the time of the incident. On July 11, 2005, Harney entered a plea of guilty to one count of Assault. On January 19, 2006, Harney was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment with one year probation. He was also ordered to pay restitution to the victim in the amount of \$1530.00 and \$1375.19 to the Indian Health Services.

RODNEY LEWIS HARNEY, Duck Valley Indian Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on January 18, 2005, in a one count indictment charging him with Sexual Abuse of a Minor. On July 11, 2005, Harney entered a plea of guilty to the one count indictment. On January 19, 2006, Harney was sentenced to 24 months imprisonment with three years probation and a fine of \$100.00.

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INDIAN COUNTRY CASE UPDATE

CONNIE LOUISE WILCOX-FAST HORSE, Fallon Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on December 22, 2004, in a one count indictment charging her with Larceny. Her trial in Federal Court has been set for February 21, 2006.

LAVERN CHARLES FAST-HORSE, Fallon Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on December 22, 2004, in a one count indictment charging him with Larceny. On January 3, 2006, Fast-Horse entered a plea of guilty to Larceny. His sentencing in Federal Court has been set for April 10, 2006.

ALEJANDRO HERNANDEZ, Reno-Sparks Indian Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on August 31, 2005, on one count of Aggravated Sexual Abuse. His trial in Federal Court has been set for April 25, 2006.

DAVID "DUKE" MOOSE, Jr., Walker River Indian Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on March 2, 2005, in a one count indictment charging him with Assault With a Dangerous Weapon With Intent to do Bodily Harm. On September 13, 2005, Moose entered a plea of guilty to Assault. On December 5, 2005, he was sentenced to 24 months probation and 60 hours of community service.

DOUGLAS HERZER, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on April 27, 2005. On June 13, 2005, Herzer entered a plea of guilty to one count of Assault With a Dangerous Weapon With Intent to do Bodily Harm. Herzer is charged with beating the victim with a metal object. On October 4, 2005, Herzer was sentenced to 37 months imprisonment, three years probation and a fine of \$100.00.

KINDLE MARIE JOHNNY, Wells Indian Colony, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on April 27, 2005, with one count of Embezzlement from a Tribal Organization. She was charged with embezzling approximately \$37,000.00 from the Wells Indian Colony. On October 17, 2005, Johnny entered a plea of guilty to the one count indictment. Her sentencing in Federal Court has been set for February 16, 2006.

DAVID LESTER JAMES, Dresslerville Indian Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on October 12, 2005, on one Count of Arson. He is charged with setting fire to a home on Dresslerville Indian Colony. His trial in Federal Court is set for March 28, 2006.

GUY JOHNNY, Wells Indian Colony, was charged by information with one misdemeanor count of Assault. He is charged with kicking and/or punching the victim. On August 8, 2005, Johnny entered a plea of guilty to the one count misdemeanor information. On November 4, 2005, Johnny was sentenced to two years probation.



LYDIA SAM, Battle Mountain Indian Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on August 31, 2005, on one count of Tampering With a Witness, one count of Perjury and one count of Impeding a Federal Officer. Her trial in Federal Court is set for March 4, 2006.

TYLENN NEZ, Duck Valley Indian Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on October 12, 2005, on one count of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon With Intent to do Bodily Harm. He is charged with stabbing his victim several times. His trial in Federal Court has been set for April 11, 2006.

EDWARD HAPPY, RICHARD HAPPY, and AMY ELISA HAPPY, Lovelock Indian Colony, were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on November 2, 2005, in a five count indictment. The charges in the indictment are Possession of a Firearm by a Prohibited Person, Possession of a Stolen Firearm, Accessory After the Fact and False Statement. Their trial in Federal Court is set for April 11, 2006.

EMERSON WINAP, Battle Mountain Indian Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on January 15, 2003, on one count of Assault. On October 1, 2002, Winap assaulted his victim at the victim's residence. He entered a plea of guilty to one count of Assault on March 18, 2003. On June 9, 2003, Winap was sentenced to four years probation. On December 29, 2005, Winap's probation was revoked and he was sentenced to an addition four months imprisonment.

GABRIEL RYAN HICKS, Walker River Indian Reservation, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on December 17, 2004. On March 30, 2004, Hicks entered a plea of guilty to Assault with a Dangerous Weapon. On June 24, 2004, Hicks was sentenced to 27 months imprisonment and three years probation. After his release from prison, Hicks' probation was revoked and he was sentenced to an additional six months imprisonment.

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March 1-3, 2006 - **Rez Violence; Prevention & Intervention** in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino. Sponsored by National Indian Justice Center. Cost is \$485.00 per person. For more information visit www.nijc.org or call (707) 579-5507.

March 1-3, 2006 - **ICWA, ASFA & Title IV-E (Indian Child Welfare Act, Adoption and Safe Families Act & Title IV-E)** in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino. Sponsored by National Indian Justice Center. Cost is \$485.00 per person. For more information visit www.nijc.org or call (707) 579-5507.

March 5-9, 2006 - **Native Women & Men's Wellness V Conference** in San Diego, California. Sponsored by The University of Oklahoma. Cost is \$400.00 per person. For more information visit hnp.ou.edu or call (405) 325-1316.

March 6-8, 2006 - **Conference on Crimes Against Women** in Dallas, Texas at the Hyatt Regency Dallas. Sponsored by Dallas Police Department and Genesis Women's Shelter. Cost for an individual is \$250.00. For more information visit www.genesisshelter.org.

March 19-21, 2006 - **Violence in the World of Our Youth Partners in Prevention** in San Diego, California at the Town and Country Hotel. Sponsored by the Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma. For more information visit www.fvsai.org or call (858) 623-2777 ext. 416.

April 2-5, 2006 - **24th Annual "Protecting Our Children" National American Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect** in San Diego, California. Sponsored by NICWA. For more information contact (503) 222-4044 Ext. 144 or isla@nicwa.org.

April 11-13, 2006 - **2006 Multi State Conference: Drugs, Violence & Victims** in Dubuque, Iowa at the Grand River Center. Sponsored by the United States Attorneys' Offices - Northern & Southern Districts of Iowa; Western & Eastern Districts of Wisconsin; District of Minnesota; Northern, Central & Southern Districts of Illinois. For more information visit www.iowaiova.com.

May 9-11, 2006 - **Capacity-Building Fundamentals for Tribal Victim Service Programs** in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Sponsored by the Office for Victims of Crime. For more information visit www.ovcttac.org or call OVC TTAC at (866) 682-8822.

May 10-12, 2006 - **Assessing Tribal Courts** in Reno, Nevada. Sponsored by National Indian Justice Center. For more information visit www.nijc.org or call (707) 579-5507.

May 10-12, 2006 - **Juvenile Justice & Gangs in Indian Country** in Reno, Nevada. Sponsored by National Indian Justice Center. For more information visit www.nijc.org or call (707) 579-5507.



**THE 12TH ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN CONFERENCE
IN WINNEMUCCA IS SCHEDULED FOR
AUGUST 16 - 18, 2006
SAVE THE DATE !**